

Message Text

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45

ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 AID-20 COME-00 EB-11 FRB-03 TRSE-00 XMB-07

OPIC-12 CIEP-03 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 DRC-01 /167 W

----- 125043

R 200950Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7828

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, EFIN, IR, XA

SUBJECT: PROPOSED IRANIAN FOREIGN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR AFRICA

REF: A. LAGOS 6688; B. TEHRAN 6123 (NOTAL)

1. SHAHROKH FIROUZ CALLED ON AMBASSADOR AUGUST 15 AND OUTLINED PLANS FOR ASSISTANCE TO WEST AFRICAN COUNTRIES ALONG LINES REPORTED IN REF A. IVORY COAST ADDED TO LIST AND TOTAL AMOUNT OF PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT FUND RAISED TO \$300 MILLION TO BE DISBURSED OVER FIVE-YEAR PERIOD. HE APPEARED TO BE THINKING IN TERMS OF IBRD EXPERTS CONDUCTING FEASIBILITY STUDIES RATHER THAN RECIPIENT COUNTRIES.

2. AMBASSADOR FIROUZ SAID HE HAD NOT YET HAD AUDIENCE WITH SHAH BUT EXPECTED TO BE RECEIVED WITHIN NEXT FEW DAYS AND WOULD THEN
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SOON RETURN TO LAGOS. HE BELIEVES SHAH WILL ACCEPT HIS PROPOSAL,

OR SOME VARIATION THEREOF, BECAUSE PRIOR TO HIS TAKING UP ASSIGNMENT IN NIGERIA SHAH HAD TOLD HIM TO BE ON LOOKOUT FOR POSSIBLE JOINT VENTURES AND FOREIGN AID PROJECTS WHICH WOULD BE SUITABLE FOR IRANIAN PARTICIPATION. HE MENTIONED POSSIBLE COOPERATION WITH DAHOMEY IN DEVELOPING OFF-SHORE OIL DEPOSITS AS EXAMPLE AND SAID HE THOUGHT IRANIAN ASSISTANCE FOR OIL EXPLOITATION MORE ACCEPTABLE TO AFRICANS THAN EUROPEAN AID. FIROUZ STRESSED IRAN HAS NO POLITICAL AIMS IN AREA IN CONTRAST TO ARAB STATES, CHINA OR ISRAEL. HE ALSO NOTED THAT CAMEROON AMBASSADOR IN LAGOS HAD URGED HIM TAKE ACTIVE PART IN PROMOTING IRANIAN ASSISTANCE TO WEST AFRICA.

3. IF ANY INDICATION RECEIVED OF RESULTS OF FIROUZ' AUDIENCE WITH SHAH, EMBASSY WILL REPORT FURTHER.
HELMS

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN ASSISTANCE, DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 AUG 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: boyleja
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974TEHRAN06961
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740228-1237
From: TEHRAN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740832/aaaabbaw.tel
Line Count: 75
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A. LAGOS 6688; B. TEHRAN 6123 (NOTAL,)
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: boyleja
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 AUG 2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <26 FEB 2003 by boyleja>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PROPOSED IRANIAN FOREIGN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR AFRICA
TAGS: EAID, EFIN, IR, XA, IBRD
To: STATE LAGOS
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005